

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/AU2004/000639

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. ⁷: G08B 17/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
DWPI : time of flight, transmission time, waveform, signal, characteristic, feature, determine, sense or detect, flow, movement blockage, smoke, gas, aspirated and similar terms.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5388445 A (WALTERS et al.) 14 February 1995 Whole document	1-26
X	US5150310 A (GREENSPUN et al.) 22 September 1992 Whole document	1-26
X	Derwent Abstract Accession NO. 2002-335255 Class Q56:S02 JP2002081986 A (SHIN COSMOS DENKI KK) 22 March 2002	29, 30, 32 & 34-40
X	EP1006500 A2 (PITTWAY CORPORATION) 7 June 2000 Whole document	29, 30, 32 & 34-40



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C



See patent family annex

* "A"	Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

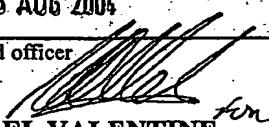
Date of the actual completion of the international search
10 August 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report
23 AUG 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims 1-28, 31-33 & 40-45 are directed toward a method of determining time of flight of a signal. It is considered that "determining time of flight" represents a first special technical feature.
2. Claims 29-30 and 34-39 pertain to sensing rate of flow in the pipes of an aspirated smoke detector. It is considered that "sensing rate of flow in the pipes of an aspirated smoke detector" represents a second special technical feature.

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000639

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member	
US	5388445	JP	6129941
US	5150310		
JP	2002081986		
EP	1006500	JP	2000172964

Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

END OF ANNEX